

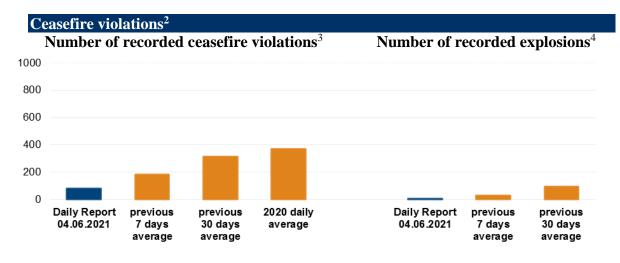
OSCCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Daily Report 128/2021

4 June 2021¹

Summary

- In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 79 ceasefire violations, including four explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded three ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded no ceasefire violations. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 357 ceasefire violations in the region.
- The SMM continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske.
- In the past weeks, the Mission spotted extensions to existing trenches on both sides of the contact line in Donetsk region and in a government-controlled area of Luhansk region.
- The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable the operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The Mission continued following up on the situation of civilians, including at four entryexit checkpoints and three corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The SMM monitored a public gathering in Lviv.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted.*



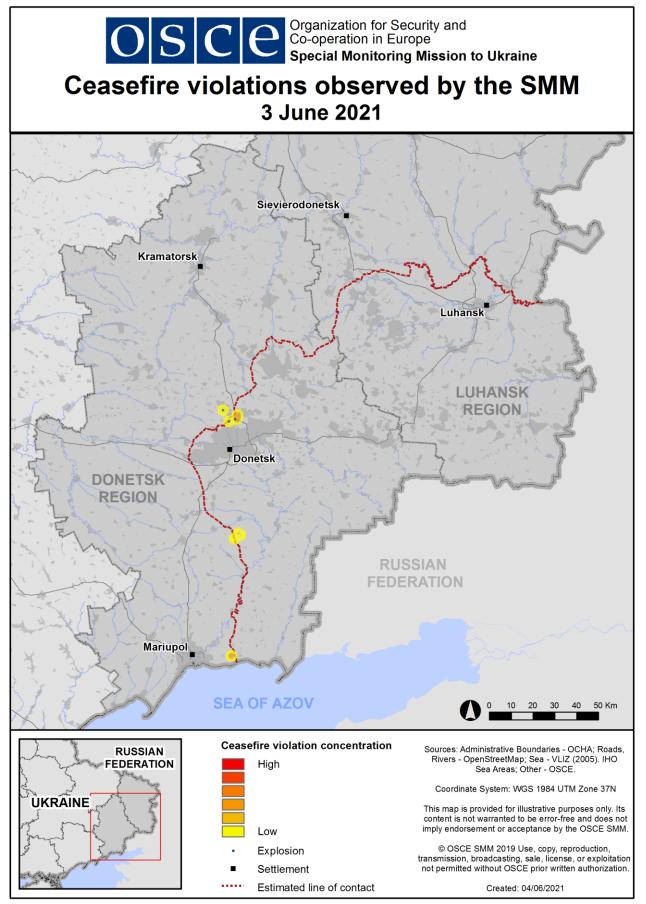
³ Including explosions.

¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 3 June 2021. All times are in Eastern European Summer Time.

² For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table. During the reporting period, the SMM camera in Petrivske was not operational and weather conditions limited the observational capabilities of some of the other SMM cameras.

⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations



In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 79 ceasefire violations, including four undetermined explosions. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in areas near the Donetsk Filtration Station (15km north of Donetsk) (DFS) (see below) and north of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk). In the previous reporting period, the Mission recorded three ceasefire violations.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded no ceasefire violations. The last time the Mission recorded no ceasefire violations in the region was between 3 and 4 May 2021 (see <u>SMM Daily</u> <u>Report 5 May 2021</u>). In the <u>previous reporting period</u>, the Mission recorded 357 ceasefire violations.

Following agreement reached at the meeting of the Trilateral Contact Group on 22 July 2020 regarding additional measures to strengthen the ceasefire, from 00:01 on 27 July 2020 until the end of the reporting period, the SMM has recorded at least 33,248 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 10,530 explosions, 5,627 projectiles in flight, 228 muzzle flashes, 109 illumination flares and at least 16,754 bursts and shots).

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

While positioned inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (governmentcontrolled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the SMM saw two members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with "JCCC" written on them) south of the repaired span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk).

While positioned near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the **disengagement** area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), the Mission saw four members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with "JCCC" written on them).

On the night of 2-3 June, the SMM camera 2km east of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk), near the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), recorded two projectiles in flight at an assessed range of 3-4km south-east. On the morning of 3 June, while positioned about 2km north of Petrivske, the Mission heard eight bursts and shots of small-arms fire at an assessed range of 1-3km south-south-east and south. All these ceasefire violations were assessed as outside the disengagement area but within 5km of its periphery.

Withdrawal of weapons

The SMM continued to monitor the withdrawal of weapons in implementation of the Memorandum and the Package of Measures and its Addendum.

Indication of military and military-type presence in the security zone

In past weeks, the SMM spotted new trenches and extensions to existing trenches on both sides of the contact line in Donetsk region and in a government-controlled area of Luhansk region. All these trenches and trench extensions were assessed as built between 13 September 2020 and 1 April 2021.

⁵ Disengagement is foreseen in the Framework Decision of the Trilateral Contact Group relating to disengagement of forces and hardware of 21 September 2016.

On 5 April, an SMM long-range unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted a 190m-long trench extension (not seen in imagery from 20 January 2021) running east-south-east to west-north-west near a residential area on the north-western outskirts of Naberezhne (non-government-controlled, 77km south of Donetsk), assessed as a forward move of the armed formations, reducing the distance between the armed formations and Ukrainian Armed Forces across the river Kalmius to about 1km.

On 14 April, an SMM mid-range UAV spotted a 200m-long trench extension located about 1.5km south of the southern edge of Novoluhanske (government-controlled, 53km north-east of Donetsk) (not seen in imagery from 13 September 2020), assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

On 23 April, an SMM mini-UAV spotted two new trenches (both 20m in length) and one trench extension (10m in length) in two fields about 3km east-south-east of Taramchuk (government-controlled, 29km south-west of Donetsk), about 80m east of road H-20 leading from Berezove (government-controlled, 31km south-west of Donetsk) to Olenivka (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk) (not seen in imagery from 20 December 2020). All these trenches were assessed as forward moves by the Ukrainian Armed Forces, reducing the distance between the Ukrainian Armed Forces and the armed formations to about 650m.

On 29 April, an SMM mini-UAV spotted two trench extensions (20m and 70m in length) near a residential area on the south-eastern outskirts of Marinka (government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk), assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces. Both extensions were assessed as forward moves, reducing the distance between the Ukrainian Armed Forces and the armed formations to about 210m (not seen in imagery from 30 January 2021).

On 30 April, an SMM mini-UAV spotted a T-shaped 65m-long trench extension in a field about 2km south-west of Katerynivka (government-controlled, 64km west of Luhansk) (not seen in imagery from 1 April 2021), assessed as a forward move of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, reducing the distance between the Ukrainian Armed Forces and the armed formations to about 370m.

The Mission previously published a summary of its observations on trenches and trench extensions on both sides of the contact line in March 2021 (see <u>SMM Daily Report 18 March 2021</u>).

On 3 June, the SMM saw an armoured combat vehicle in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region. (For further information, see the table below.)

De-mining activities near Myrna Dolyna, Luhansk region

On 3 June, in a field about 100m west of road P-66 about 2.5km south-east of Myrna Dolyna (government-controlled, 67km north-west of Luhansk), the SMM observed eight representatives of an international organisation with metal detectors carrying out de-mining activities.

On the western outskirts of Zhovte (non-government-controlled, 17km north-west of Luhansk), the Mission saw that two previously observed mine signs were no longer present (for previous observations in the area, see <u>SMM Daily Report 1 March 2019</u>).

SMM facilitation of maintenance and operation of critical civilian infrastructure

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the DFS. While positioned at three locations near the DFS, it registered one undetermined explosion and 45 shots of small-arms fire within a 5km radius of the station.

Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints

In Donetsk region, the SMM noted that the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) near Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km north-east of Donetsk) was open, but did not observe traffic in either direction.

In Luhansk region, the SMM noted that the EECP near Stanytsia Luhanska and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of Stanytsia Luhanska bridge were open, with people queueing to travel in both directions.

The SMM also noted that the EECPs near Zolote and Shchastia (government-controlled, 20km north of Luhansk) were open, but that the corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations south of the disengagement area near Zolote and 3km south-east of the bridge in Shchastia were closed.

Border areas outside government control

While at a border crossing point⁶ near Marynivka (78km east of Donetsk) for about one hour, the SMM observed 15 cars (including 14 with "DPR" plates), two covered cargo trucks (with "DPR" plates) and a man (in his twenties) entering Ukraine. During the same time, it observed 26 cars (including 21 with "DPR" plates), two covered cargo trucks (including one with "DPR" plates), three buses (with "DPR" plates, carrying passengers of mixed genders and ages) and six people (three women and three men, in their forties to fifties) exiting Ukraine.

The SMM monitored a gathering in Lviv

At the Heroes of the Heavenly Hundred Memorial at 6 Pidvalna Street in Lviv, the SMM saw about 50 people (mixed ages and genders), including members of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church and representatives of local authorities, commemorating those who lost their lives during Maidan-related events in 2014. The Mission observed a calm situation.

The SMM continued monitoring in Kherson, Odessa, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kharkiv, Dnipro, Chernivtsi and Kyiv.

⁶ According to decisions in 2014 by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, operations are officially designated as suspended at these and other border crossing points located outside government control.

*Restrictions of the SMM's freedom of movement or other impediments to fulfilment of its mandate

The SMM's monitoring and freedom of movement are restricted by security hazards and threats, including risks posed by mines, unexploded ordnance (UXO) and other impediments – which vary from day to day. The SMM's mandate provides for safe and secure access throughout Ukraine. All signatories of the Minsk agreements have agreed on the need for this safe and secure access, that restriction of the SMM's freedom of movement constitutes a violation, and on the need for rapid response to these violations. They have also agreed that the Joint Centre for Control and Coordination (JCCC) should contribute to such response and co-ordinate mine clearance. Nonetheless, the armed formations in parts of Donetsk and Luhansk regions frequently deny the SMM access to areas adjacent to Ukraine's border outside control of the government (for example, see <u>SMM Daily Report of 2 June 2021</u>). The SMM's operations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions remain restricted following <u>the fatal incident of 23 April 2017 near Pryshyb</u>; these restrictions continued to limit the Mission's observations.

Regular restrictions related to disengagement areas and mines/UXO:

- The sides continued to deny the SMM full access, as well as the ability to travel certain roads previously identified as important for effective monitoring by the Mission and for civilians' movement, through failure to conduct comprehensive clearance of mines, UXO and other obstacles.

Other impediments:⁷

- An SMM mid-range UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Lebedynske (government-controlled, 99km south of Donetsk).
- Two mini-UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km south of Donetsk) and Pivdenne (formerly Leninske, government-controlled, 40km north-east of Donetsk).

⁷ For cases of probable jamming and jamming mentioned in this section, the interferences could have originated from anywhere within the radius of kilometres from the UAVs' positions.

Table of military	and military-type pre	sence in the security zone ⁸
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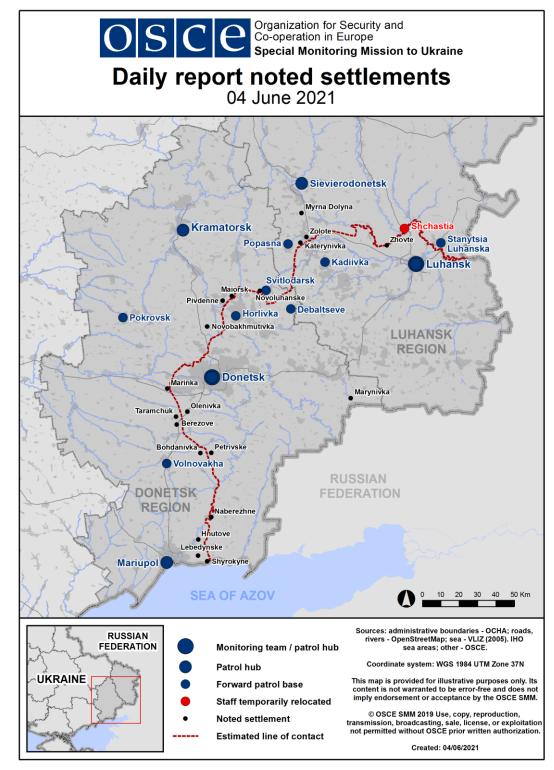
Date	No. Type		Location	Source of observation				
Government-controlled areas								
3/6/2021	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-70) Near Novobakhmutivka (28km north of Donetsk) Patrol		Patrol				

⁸ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

Table of ceasefire violations as of 3 June 2021⁹

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera 2km E of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of	3-4km SE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SW to NE (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	3-Jun, 03:22
Donetsk)	3-4km SE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SW to NE (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	3-Jun, 03:23
	3-5km N	Recorded	6	Projectile	E to W	N/K	2-Jun, 22:01
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	3-5km N	Recorded	6	Projectile	E to W	N/K	2-Jun, 22:33
Dolletsk)	3-5km N	Recorded	8	Projectile	E to W	N/K	2-Jun, 22:34
	2-3km SSE	Heard	2	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	3-Jun, 09:19
About 2km N of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	1-2km S	Heard	6	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	3-Jun, 11:50
Railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	2-4km SW	Heard	25	Shot		Small arms	3-Jun, 10:45- 11:00
About 1km NW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	1-2km SW	Heard	20	Shot		Small arms	3-Jun, 14:15- 14:30
About 500m NE of Komionico (covorment controlled 20km N of Denetal)	5-7km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	3-Jun, 10:00
About 500m NE of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk)	5-7km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	3-Jun, 10:20
SE ada of Audiuka (government controlled 17km N of Depately)	3-5km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	3-Jun, 10:00
SE edge of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	3-5km S	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	3-Jun, 10:20

⁹ The table only includes ceasefire violations directly observed by SMM patrols or recorded by the SMM cameras, and it may include those also assessed to be live-fire exercises, controlled detonations, etc. Details provided – in terms of distance, direction, weapons-type, etc. – are based on assessments provided by monitors on the ground and technical monitoring officers, and are not always necessarily precise. When information is not known (indicated with an "N/K"), the SMM was unable to ascertain such information due to distance, weather conditions technical limitations and/or other considerations. Ceasefire violations recorded by more than one patrol/camera and assessed to be the same are entered only once.



Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions¹⁰

¹⁰ The SMM is deployed to ten locations throughout Ukraine – Kherson, Odessa, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kharkiv, Donetsk, Dnipro, Chernivtsi, Luhansk and Kyiv – as per Permanent Council Decision 1117 of 21 March 2014. This map of eastern Ukraine is meant for illustrative purposes and indicates locations mentioned in the report, as well as those where the SMM has offices (monitoring teams, patrol hubs and forward patrol bases) in Donetsk and Luhansk regions. (In red: a forward patrol base from which SMM staff have temporarily relocated based on recommendations of security experts from participating States, as well as SMM security considerations. The SMM uses the premises during daylight hours and also patrols in this settlement during daylight hours).